

SECRET

66A-41582

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Chief, SE

14 May 1957

Chief of Base, Berlin

INFO: LHM PGM LHM LHM

Operational/0007

Attempts to Make Contact with Identity-1

Reference: 66A-41292 (not to PGM)

1. Attempts to make contact with Identity-1 for reasons outlined in MARK 5494 (not to PGM) were continued. [] drove to Identity-2 on 6 May to meet Identity-3, as planned in reference. Identity-3 had been at his home in Identity-4 over the weekend, and did not return until late that night. (He was working on the night shift of the construction project mentioned in paragraph one, reference.) [] made an appointment with him for the following afternoon.

2. [] met Identity-3 on the afternoon of 7 May. Identity-3 was by now very curious about [] purpose in seeing him, for he had learned from his wife that [] had sought him in Identity-4. [] identified himself as an American who had been informed about WFF attempts to recruit Identity-3 while Identity-3 was visiting his wife in the USSR in 1955, and that he, [], was seeking information on the WFF individuals involved in order to pass such information to people competent to take action against them. [] added that he was also aware that Identity-3 had dropped contact with the WFF upon leaving the USSR, and had evacuated his family in order that he would no longer be susceptible to WFF coercion. Identity-3 was surprised at the detail of [] information, and confirmed the entire story. He stated that he had consistently refused to cooperate with the WFF,

expressing agreement not to reveal to anyone the nature of his interview with the WFF officials. Upon leaving the USSR Identity-3 directed his wife to follow him with the family (separate cover attachment, reference) as soon as possible. His family joined

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him in the Fedkeg approximately ten days later. Identity-3 stated the KFB had informed him someone from the KFB would look him up after he returned to the Fedkeg, but no one has yet approached him. Since it has been almost ten years since this incident, Identity-3 believes the KFB has abandoned efforts to solicit him. Moreover, he stated he had informed the Munich police about the affair (which was reported in DKS 10953) in order that the KFB would not be in a position to coerce him into collaboration. Neither have the West German police bothered him any further about the matter. Identity-3 stated the KFB individuals were no longer while dealing with him, and that he was unable to describe them, since it had been so long ago, and of such short duration. He remembered only that they were young men, younger than he.

3. [] then asked Identity-3 if he could place [] in contact with Identity-1, since [] had reason to believe Identity-1 was in possession of important information of which Identity-1 himself was possibly unaware. [] brought this subject up immediately after debriefing Identity-3 on his brush with the KFB in an attempt to create the impression his motive for making contact with Identity-1 concerned Identity-3's case, rather than implying that independent motives were involved.) Identity-3 replied that contact between Identity-1 and his wife (who is a sister of Identity-3's wife) and Identity-3 and his wife was very loose and confined to the exchanging of Christmas and Easter cards, and, moreover, he could not get along with his in-laws and preferred not to have any dealings with them. He further added that, now that he had a good job and that his family was in the Fedkeg (though his mother and his wife's mother and several other relatives were still in the DKS), he did not want to get mixed up in this business. He was merely thankful the KFB had left him in peace so far, and hoped the situation would remain so. He added that was the reason his wife was so hostile to [] (reported in reference). He was afraid the KFB would indeed send someone to him and had instructed his wife never to deal with any strangers, not to permit them into the house, nor to get into an automobile with a stranger. His wife had thought [] was the individual they had been fearing would one day be sent to them.

4. In view of this development, [] decided to abandon this course of approaching Identity-1. He thanked Identity-3 for his cooperation, admonished him not to mention his visit to anyone for his own security. (Identity-3 stated he had never told anyone other than the Munich police about his affair with the KFB.) [] further warned Identity-3 not to mention anything to his wife, since she might write

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something to Identity-1 or his wife that might compromise him, since, because of Identity-3, Identity-1 was certainly subject to mail censorship. Identity-3 agreed to hold [] visit strictly confidential, and expressed his regrets he was unable to help.

5. [] departed for Identity-5 the following day in order to see Identity-6. He arrived at 1630 on 8 May and proceeded directly to Identity-6's office (see separate cover attachment for details). [] invented the story that he, an American, was seeking an ex-prisoner of war he had met in Berlin, who had once told him he had been in Identity-7 and had lived at one time both in Identity-5 and Identity-8. Since this was 12 years ago, and at the time [] had not the slightest idea of ever visiting Germany, he sought no more details about this ex-PW (whom he identified fictitiously as Identity-9). It was [] intention to use this cover story in order to provoke Identity-6 into admitting he was once in Identity-7, which he did. He further stated that veterans had organized themselves into a group, and that [] might get more information from Identity-10 about the group. He informed [] that the group had legitimate judicial recognition as an organization, since individuals in the East sometimes make attempts to obtain information from members in the West (many had since settled in the West, though they were for the most part from Identity-8). Identity-6 stated that even he had been subjected to attempts by the "NKVD" to get information. [] made no comment or inquiry on this point, since he wanted to make the most of his visit as long as possible in the hope that Identity-6 would volunteer information on contact with Identity-1, or at least when Identity-1 might next travel to West Germany. [] stated that shaking in the local Kinwohnenkassen produced nothing, and he suspected Identity-6 had returned to Identity-8. Since it was impossible for [] to travel to Identity-8 to check the Kinwohnenkassen, perhaps Identity-6 knew of other members of Identity-7 living in Identity-8 who might be able to make the inquiries, and who occasionally traveled to West Germany. Identity-6 stated that, in general some of these members living in Identity-8 occasionally traveled to West Germany, but he did not know any specifically, and that [] would probably have better results turning to Identity-

Identity-9 had once mentioned the name of a friend of his that was also a member of Identity-7 who was from his home town. Perhaps [] could send word to or meet Identity-1, he might learn the whereabouts of Identity-9. Identity-6 was visibly startled by this turn of events and excused himself to get a notebook to take down the information. He admitted hearing the name once, though pronounced as if spelled slightly differently.

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He had been an officer, and had traveled once to West Germany in 1955. It was clear to [] that at this point Identity-6 had become suspicious of [] true motives in seeking him. He said he would agree to write to Identity-1 and if he learned when Identity-1 was traveling to West Germany, he would inform [] he would therefore require [] address. [] stated that he was leaving that evening for Switzerland and did not know when he would be able to return to Identity-5, but that Identity-6 might write him (Gassenbrink gave him an alias) through a friend of his who was living in Identity-5. However, since Gassenbrink was an American and his friend was employed in an American office, neither, for professionalism reasons, wanted to be exposed to the embarrassing situation of corresponding with individuals in the East. [] mentioned that that was certainly the case also with Identity-1, in that [] did not want to embarrass him with a letter directly from an American. Identity-6 agreed to do what he could, but could not say when, if at all, Identity-1 would be traveling to West Germany. [] thanked him for his cooperation, inasmuch as [] was imposing on him, and regreted he had taken up so much of his time.

6. [] impression of Identity-6 is that he is familiar with the intrigue that surrounds matters of this sort, and that he no doubt at one time or another has worked for an intelligence organization. He might well be an DIS-INS or RFS double agent controlled by either or neither. No surrendered sufficient information shown above to establish the fact that he is subject of paragraph 1-A, ARMB 5494, and this tends to confirm the [] allegations. However, he denied anything more than a casual acquaintance with Identity-1, which contradicts the [] information. Had it not been for [] he would never have mentioned Identity-1's name, which could legitimately have been expected of him, had he no reason to withhold it. If he had nothing to hide in this matter, he could have had no reason to impute ulterior motives to Gassenbrink, who was obviously an American, appearing at the outset, at least, to be seeking harmless information on a legitimate personal matter.

7. It is planned to allow Identity-6 about 30 days to act on this matter and then visit him again and see what the situation

Identity-6 in Identity-5 might disclose sufficient information to make retracing worthwhile. His case might be buried among others in tracing DIS-INS. As it is now, we have insufficient information to attempt to recruit Identity-6; however, if he is in touch with the RFS, we might smoke him out gradually.

8. It is requested that FCB make a police check on Identity-6.

326-6-13-1

Separate Cover Attachment
ZGBA-41582

- Identity-1: Rudolf PESCHMANN (aka PESCHMANN or PESCHMANN);
DOB: 12 April 1910, living at Weimar, Belvedere
Allee 10-P
- Identity-2: Dingolfing, 100 km northeast of Munich
- Identity-3: Werner DIETRICH
DOB: 4 June 1912; living at Dingolfing, Rennstrasse 160
- Identity-4: Volkach, east of Würzburg
- Identity-5: Frankfurt/Main
- Identity-6: Ernst EMBER, Vers. Kaufmann (as abbreviated in
Frankfurt/Main phone book), Schonkstrasse 42;
Phone TO 64 92; employed at Hamburg-Bremer Feuer-
Versicherungs-Gesellschaft, Bezirksdirektion
Frankfurt/Main, Rheinstrasse 24 II, phone 77 91 28.
- Identity-7: First Panzer Division
- Identity-8: Weimar
- Identity-9: Helmut ZIMMERMANN, about 37 years old, ex-enlisted man
- Identity-10: Helmut (?) MOESER, Itstein/Taunus bei Frankfurt/Main,
Geschäftsführer Kameradschaftsbund of the First Panzer
Division

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